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COOPER & DUNHAM LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1185 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036
TELEPHONE: (212) 278-0400

CHRISTOPHER C. DUNHAM	VAN S. KAVRUKOV
NORMAN H. ZIVIN	PETER D. MURRAY
JOHN P. WHITE	WILLIAM C. PELTON
ROBERT U.G. MOROWITZ	ROBERT D. KATZ
ERIC D. NISSEN	PAUL TENG
GARY J. GERSHNIK	PETER J. PHILLIPS
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TONIA A. SAYOUR	GEORGE J. CARBO
ASHOK S. CHANDRA	JOSEPH A. SHERINSKY
ISAAC E. MORWITZ	HINDY N. DYK

FACSIMILE: (212) 391-0525
(212) 391-0526
(212) 391-0630
(212) 391-0631
(212) 827-0247

SCIENTIFIC ADVISOR
JAMES R. MAJOR, D. PHIL.
AMANDA L. WILLIS, PH.D.

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MESSAGE

In connection with Serial No. 10/561,329:
Preliminary Amendment.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Seiichi KOGURE et al.

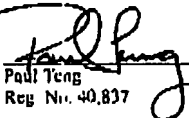
Serial No.: 10/561,329

Group Art Unit: 2861

Filed: December 19, 2005

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New York, N.Y. 10036
(212) 278-0400

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter this Amendment in connection with the application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

Replacement sheets of drawings for Figures 2, 8, and 15 are attached hereto as Exhibit A.